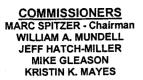
OPEN MEETING ITEM









Executive Secretary

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2004 FEB 13 P 3: 32

DATE:

February 13, 2004

AZ CERP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCKET NO.:

T-04201A-03-0552

TO ALL PARTIES:

Enclosed please find the recommendation of Administrative Law Judge Philip J. Dion III. The recommendation has been filed in the form of an Opinion and Order on:

CITYNET ARIZONA (CC&N/FACILITIES-BASED)

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-3-110(B), you may file exceptions to the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge by filing an original and thirteen (13) copies of the exceptions with the Commission's Docket Control at the address listed below by 4:00 P.M. on or before:

FEBRUARY 23, 2004

The enclosed is <u>NOT</u> an order of the Commission, but a recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to the Commissioners. Consideration of this matter has <u>tentatively</u> been scheduled for the Open Meeting to be held on:

MARCH 2 AND 3, 2004

For more information, you may contact Docket Control at (602)542-3477 or the Hearing Division at (602)542-4250. For information about the Open Meeting, contact the Executive Secretary's Office at (602) 542-3931.

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

FEB 1 3 2004

DOCKETED BY

BRIAN C. MCNEIL

EXECÚTIVE SECRETARY

1200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET; PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2927 / 400 WEST CONGRESS STREET; TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1347

WWW.CC.State.az.us

This document is available in alternative formats by contacting Yvonne McFarlin, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number 602-542-3931, E-mail YMcFarlin@cc.state.az.us

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 2 COMMISSIONERS 3 MARC SPITZER, Chairman WILLIAM A. MUNDELL JEFF HATCH-MILLER MIKE GLEASON 5 KRISTIN K. MAYES 6 DOCKET NO. T-04201A-03-0552 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CITYNET ARIZONA, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE DECISION NO. 8 FACILITIES-BASED AND RESOLD LOCAL EXCHANGE ACCESS, AND FACILITIES-BASED AND RESOLD INTEREXCHANGE OPINION AND ORDER TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE IN 10 ARIZONA AND FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION OF ITS SERVICES. 11 DATE OF HEARING: January 29, 2004 12 PLACE OF HEARING: Phoenix, Arizona 13 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Philip J. Dion III 14 APPEARANCES: Mike Hallam, LEWIS & ROCA, PLC, on behalf of 15 Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. 16 Maureen A. Scott, Staff Attorney, Legal Division, on behalf of the Utilities Division of the Arizona 17 Corporation Commission. 18 BY THE COMMISSION: 19 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the 20 Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that: 21 FINDINGS OF FACT 22 1. On August 7, 2003, Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. ("Citynet" or "Applicant") filed with the 23 Commission an application for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("Certificate") to provide 24 competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange, and facilities-based and resold interexchange 25 telecommunications services statewide.

S:\Hearing\Phil\Telecom\Facility Based\Citynet\o&o.doc

that comply with Commission rules.

26

27

28

2.

1

On January 5, 2004, Applicant docketed a Notice of Filing of Affidavits of Publication

Citynet has authority to transact business in Arizona. Citynet Holdings, LLC is a

Delaware corporation. Citynet is a wholly owned subsidiary of Citynet Holdings, L.L.C.

- 4. On December 15, 2003, the Commission's Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") filed its Staff Report, which recommended approval of the application, subject to some recommendations.
- 5. On December 17, 2003, a Procedural Order was issued setting this matter for hearing on January 29, 2004 and setting various procedural deadlines.
- 6. On January 29, 2004, a full public hearing in this matter was held as scheduled. Applicant appeared and was represented by counsel. Staff appeared and was represented by counsel. The hearing was conducted before a duly authorized Administrative Law Judge. Evidence was presented and testimony was taken. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Administrative Law Judge took the matter under advisement and informed the parties that a Recommended Opinion and Order would be prepared for the Commissioners' consideration.
- 7. Applicant has the technical capability to provide the services that are proposed in its application.
- 8. Currently there are several incumbent providers of local exchange and interexchange services in the service territory requested by Applicant, and numerous other entities have been authorized to provide competitive local and interexchange services in all or portions of that territory.
 - 9. It is appropriate to classify all of Applicant's authorized services as competitive.
- 10. The Staff Report stated that Applicant has no market power and the reasonableness of its rates would be evaluated in a market with numerous competitors.
- 11. According to Staff, Citynet submitted the unaudited financial statement of its parent, Citynet Holdings, LLC, for the year ending September 1, 2003. These financial statements list total assets of \$16 million, negative equity of \$3.4 million, and a net loss of \$3.4 million.
- 12. The Application states that Citynet collects advances, payments and/or deposits from its customers.
- 13. Staff recommends that Citynet's application for a Certificate to provide competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange and facilities-based and resold interexchange telecommunications services be granted subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) that, unless it provides services solely through the use of its own facilities,

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	,
28	

Citynet be ordered to procure an Interconnection Agreement, within 365 days of the effective date of the Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, that must remain in effect until further order of the Commission, before being allowed to offer local exchange service;

- (b) that Citynet be ordered to file with the Commission, within 365 days of the effective date of the Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, its plan to have its customers' telephone numbers included in the incumbent's Directories and Directory Assistance databases that must remain in effect until further Order of the Commission;
- (c) that Citynet be ordered to pursue permanent number portability arrangements with other LECs pursuant to Commission rules, federal laws and federal rules;
- (d) that Citynet be ordered to abide by and participate in the AUSF mechanism instituted in Decision No. 59623, dated April 24, 1996 (Docket No. RT-T-00000E-95-0498);
- (e) that Citynet be ordered to abide by the quality of service standards that were approved by the Commission for Qwest in Docket No. T-0151B-93-0183;
- that Citynet be ordered to certify, through the 911 service provider in the area in which it intends to provide service, that all issues associated with the provision of 911 service have been resolved with the emergency service providers within 365 days of an Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, which certification must remain in effect until further Order of the Commission;
- (g) that Citynet be ordered to abide by all the Commission decisions and policies regarding CLASS services;
- (h) that Citynet be ordered to provide 2-PIC equal access;
- (i) that Citynet be required to notify the Commission immediately upon changes to its name, address or telephone number;
- (j) that Citynet be ordered to comply with all Commission rules, orders, and other requirements relevant to the provision of intrastate telecommunications service;
- (k) that Citynet be ordered to maintain its accounts and records as required by the Commission;
- (l) that Citynet be ordered to file with the Commission all financial and other reports that the Commission may require, and in a form and at such times as the Commission may designate;
- (m) that Citynet be ordered to maintain on file with the Commission all current tariffs and rates, and any service standards that the Commission may require;
- (n) that Citynet be ordered to cooperate with Commission investigations including, but not limited to, customer complaints;
- (o) Citynet be ordered to participate in and contribute to a universal service fund, as required by the Commission; and

- that Citynet be subject to the Commission's rules governing interconnection and unbundling and the 1996 Telecommunications Act and the rules promulgated thereunder. In the event that the Applicant provides essential services or facilities that potential competitors need in order to provide their services, Citynet should be required to offer those facilities or services to these provides on non-discriminatory terms and conditions pursuant to federal laws, federal rules, and state rules.
- 15. Staff further recommended that Citynet's application for a CC&N to provide intrastate telecommunications services should be granted subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Citynet shall file conforming tariffs for its CC&Ns to provide resold long distance, facilities-based long distance, resold local exchange and facilities-based local exchange services within 365 days from the date of an Order in this matter or 30 days prior to providing service, whichever comes first, and in accordance with the Decision;
 - (b) In order to protect Citynet's customers:
 - (1) Citynet should be ordered to procure a performance bond equal to \$235,000. The minimum bond amount of \$235,000 should be increased if at any time it would be insufficient to cover prepayments or deposits collected from Citynet's customers. The bond amount should be increased in increments of \$117,500 whenever the total amount of the advances, deposits and prepayments is within \$23,500 of the bond amount;
 - (2) City should docket proof of the performance bond within 365 days of the effective date of an Order in this matter or 30 days prior to the provision of service, whichever comes first, and must remain in effect until further Order of the Commission;
 - (3) If at some future date, Citynet does not collect from its resold long distance customers an advance, deposit, and/or prepayment, it may file a request for cancellation of its performance bond regarding resold interexchange service. Such request must reference the decision and date of this docket.
 - (4) if Citynet desires to discontinue service, it should be required to file an application with the Commission pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107; and
 - (5) Citynet should be required to notify each of its local exchange customers and the Commission 60 days prior to filing an application to discontinue service pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107; and any failure to do so should result in forfeiture of the Applicant's performance bond.
 - (c) If any of the above timeframes are not met, then Citynet's CC&N should become null and void without further Order of the Commission and no extensions for compliance should be granted.

16. At the hearing, the evidence proved that Citynet's fair value rate base is \$4 million. Staff stated it considered Citynet's fair value rate base, but it believes that such information should not be given substantial weight in this analysis. Staff further stated that in general, rates for competitive services are not set according to rate of return regulation, but are heavily influenced by the market. Staff recommended that while it considered the fair value rate base information, it did not believe the information deserved substantial weight in setting rates for Citynet.

- 17. The rates to be ultimately charged by Citynet will be heavily influenced by the market. Because of the nature of the competitive market and other factors, a fair value analysis is not necessarily representative of the company's operations.
- 18. Staff stated that Citynet lacks the market power to adversely affect the telecommunications market by either restricting output or raising prices. Also, Staff has recommended that Citynet's services be classified as competitive and thus subject to the flexible pricing authority allowed by the Commission's Competitive Telecommunications Services rules. Staff believes that these two factors, lack of market power and the competitive marketplace for the services Citynet proposes to offer, support the conclusion that a fair value analysis is not necessarily representative of the company's operations, and that the rates charged by Citynet will be reasonable.
 - 19. Staff's recommendations, as set forth herein, are reasonable.
- 20. Citynet's fair value rate base is determined to be \$4 million for purposes of this proceeding.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Applicant is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Applicant and the subject matter of the application.
 - 3. Notice of the application was given in accordance with the law.
- 4. A.R.S. § 40-282 allows a telecommunications company to file an application for a Certificate to provide competitive telecommunications services.

5. Pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution, as well as the Arizona Revised Statutes, it is in the public interest for Applicant to provide the telecommunications services set forth in its application.

- 6. Applicant is a fit and proper entity to receive a Certificate authorizing it to provide competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange and facilities-based and resold interexchange telecommunications services in Arizona as conditioned by Staff's recommendations.
- 7. The telecommunications services that the Applicant intends to provide are competitive within Arizona.
- 8. Pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution as well as the Competitive Rules, it is just and reasonable and in the public interest for Applicant to establish rates and charges that are not less than the Applicant's total service long-run incremental costs of providing the competitive services approved herein.
 - 9. Staff's recommendations, as set forth herein, are reasonable and should be adopted.
- 10. Citynet's competitive rates, as set forth in its proposed tariffs, are just and reasonable and should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application of Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity for authority to provide competitive facilities-based and resold local exchange, and facilities-based and resold interexchange telecommunications services in Arizona shall be, and is hereby, granted, conditioned upon Citynet Arizona, L.L.C.'s timely compliance with the following three Ordering Paragraphs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. shall file conforming tariffs in accordance with this Decision within 365 days of this Decision or 30 days prior to providing service, whichever comes first.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. shall procure a performance bond equal to \$235,000 the earlier of 365 days from the effective date of this Order or 30 days prior to the commencement of service. The minimum bond amount of \$235,000 shall be increased if, at any time, it would be insufficient to cover any advances, prepayments and/or deposits collected from the

1	1 Applicant's customers. The bond amount	shall be increased in incr	ements of \$117,500. This	
2	2 increase shall occur when the total amount o	f the advances, deposits, an	nd/or prepayments is within	
3	3 \$23,500 of the bond amount.			
4	4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Cit	ynet Arizona, L.L.C. shall	comply with all of the Staff	
5	5 recommendations set forth in the above-stated	Findings of Fact and Conc	usions of Law.	
6	6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if	Citynet Arizona, L.L.C. fa	ails to meet the timeframes	
7	7 outlined in the Ordering Paragraphs above	then the Certificate of C	Convenience and Necessity	
8	8 conditionally granted herein shall become null	and void without further O	rder of the Commission.	
9	9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that i	f Citynet Arizona, L.L.C.	fails to notify each of its	
10	10 customers and the Commission at least 60 da	nys prior to filing an applic	ation to discontinue service	
11	pursuant to A.A.C. R14-2-1107, that in addi	tion to voidance of its Cer	tificate of Convenience and	
12	12 Necessity, Citynet Arizona L.L.C.'s performar	Necessity, Citynet Arizona L.L.C.'s performance bond shall be forfeited.		
	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.			
13	11 IS FORTHER ORDERED that this			
13 14			MISSION.	
	14 BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO		MMISSION.	
14	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO		MMISSION. COMMISSIONER	
14 15	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO 15 16 CHAIRMAN	NA CORPORATION COM		
14 15 16	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO 15 16 CHAIRMAN 17	NA CORPORATION COM		
14 15 16 17	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO 15 16 CHAIRMAN 17 18 COMMISSIONER	NA CORPORATION CON		
14 15 16 17 18	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO 15 16 CHAIRMAN 17 18 COMMISSIONER 19 20	ONA CORPORATION CONCOMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER	
14 15 16 17 18 19	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO 15 16 CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER 19 20 21 IN WIT Secretar	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo	COMMISSIONER AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunto Commis	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause sion to be affixed at the Ca	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunts Commis this	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunto Commis this	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause sion to be affixed at the Cap day of, 2004.	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunto Commis this BRIAN EXECUTE	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause sion to be affixed at the Cap day of, 2004.	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunto Commis this BRIAN EXECU	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause sion to be affixed at the Cap day of, 2004.	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	BY ORDER OF THE ARIZO CHAIRMAN COMMISSIONER IN WIT Secretar hereunto Commis this BRIAN EXECU DISSENT	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER NESS WHEREOF, I, BRI y of the Arizona Corpo set my hand and cause sion to be affixed at the Cap day of, 2004.	AN C. McNEIL, Executive oration Commission, have ed the official seal of the pitol, in the City of Phoenix,	

1	SERVICE LIST FOR: Citynet Arizona, L.L.C.
2	DOCKET NO.: T-04201A-03-0552
3	
4	Michael Hallam LEWIS & ROCA
5	40 N. Central Avenue
6	Phoenix, AZ 85004 Attorneys for Citynet Arizona, LLC
7	Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel
8	Legal Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
9	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007
10	Ernest Johnson, Director
11	Utilities Division ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
12	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	